

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A first RFID reader for use in a security network in a building having a ~~sensor~~, an RFID transponder ~~coupled physically connected to or incorporating the~~ sensor for wirelessly transmitting a signal indicating a status of the ~~sensor~~, the first RFID reader comprising:
 - a first antenna for wirelessly communicating with, ~~by sending transmissions to and receiving a wireless signal which indicates a status of the sensor from,~~ the RFID transponder; and
 - a processor coupled to the antenna and configured to receive the wireless signal, decode the sensor status from the wireless signal, and to communicate the sensor status to a ~~first~~-control function.
2. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein the security network is configured for use in a building having an opening and the sensor monitors the opening to detect intrusion.
3. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein the security network is configured for use in a building and the sensor monitors the building for smoke or fire.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein the security network includes a second RFID reader and the first RFID reader receives wireless communications from the second RFID reader.
6. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein the security network includes a second RFID reader and the first RFID reader transmits wireless communications received from the RFID transponder to the second RFID reader.
7. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising a second antenna for use in wireless communications.
8. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 7 wherein only one of the first antenna and the second antenna is used in each wireless communication.

9. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 8 further comprising configuration data including parameters that predetermine which of the first antenna or the second antenna to use in each wireless communication.
10. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising a battery backup.
11. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 wherein the processor is configured to support more than one modulation technique.
12. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 11 wherein at least one modulation technique is continuous wave.
13. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 11 wherein at least one modulation technique is Gaussian Frequency Shift Keying.
14. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein the first RFID reader supports multiple transmit power levels.
15. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 configured to vary its rate of transmitting RF energy.
16. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising algorithms for using microwave Doppler analysis to detect motion.
17. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 16 configured to apply the algorithms for using microwave Doppler analysis to detect motion in response to wireless communications received from the RFID transponder.
18. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising an acoustic transducer.
19. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 18 further comprising algorithms to process audio waves received by the acoustic transducer wherein the algorithms detect glass breakage.
20. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 18 further comprising algorithms to process audio waves received by the acoustic transducer wherein the algorithms perform voice recognition.

21. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 20 wherein the processor is configured to perform the control function in response to commands received via voice recognition.
22. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 18 further comprising algorithms to digitize the audio waves received by the acoustic transducer and retransmit the digitized audio waves via wireless communications.
23. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising a sensor that monitors an environmental parameter in at least one portion of the building.
24. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 23 wherein the environmental parameter is the presence of smoke.
25. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 23 wherein the environmental parameter is temperature.
26. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 23 wherein the environmental parameter is the presence of water.
27. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising a camera.
28. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 27 further comprising algorithms to digitize pictures recorded by the camera and transmit the digitized pictures via wireless communications.
29. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1, wherein at least one operation of the first RFID reader is under the control of a master controller contained within the security network.
30. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 29, wherein the master controller is contained within a device in the security network other than the first RFID reader.
31. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 29 further comprising the master controller.
32. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 31 wherein the master controller sends a command controlling at least one operation of another device within the security network.

33. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising configuration data that is are changed under the control of a master controller or the control function contained within the security network.
34. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising a memory which stores program code executed by the processor wherein the program code is updatable under the control of a master controller or the control function contained within the security network.
35. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising physical packaging wherein the RFID transponder is positioned within the physical packaging of the first RFID reader.
36. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 further comprising an interface to another security system.
37. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 36 configured to receive power via the interface to the other security system.
38. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 36 configured to receive commands via the interface to the other security system.
39. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 mechanically mounted to a plate wherein the plate is configured to be mechanically mounted to an outlet.
40. (Currently Amended) The first RFID reader of claim 1 integrated with an outlet and configured to be installed within a standard outlet box.
41. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 integrated with a light switch and configured to be installed within a standard outlet box.
42. (Previously Presented) The first RFID reader of claim 1 wherein the control function is performed by the first RFID reader.
43. (New) The first RFID reader of claim 1 wherein the RFID transponder and the first RFID reader are positioned in a fixed, static relationship.
44. (New) An RFID reader for use in a security network in a structure having a sensor monitoring an opening of the structure to detect intrusion and an RFID transponder being physically connected to or having incorporated the sensor, the RFID reader comprising:

an antenna wirelessly communicating with, by sending transmissions to and receiving a wireless signal which indicates a status of the sensor from, the RFID transponder;

a processor coupled to the antenna and configured to support more than one modulation technique and to receive the wireless signal, decode the sensor status from the wireless signal, and communicate the sensor status to a control function; and

a memory which stores program code executed by the processor wherein the program code is updatable under the control of a master controller or the control function.

45. (New) An RFID reader for use in a security network in a structure having a sensor monitoring an opening of the structure to detect intrusion and an RFID transponder being physically connected to or having incorporated the sensor, the RFID reader comprising:

an antenna wirelessly communicating with, by sending transmissions to and receiving a wireless signal which indicates a status of the sensor from, the RFID transponder;

a control function;

a processor coupled to the antenna and configured to support more than one modulation technique and to receive the wireless signal, decode the sensor status from the wireless signal, and communicate the sensor status to the control function; and

a memory which stores program code executed by the processor wherein the program code is updatable under the control of the control function,

the first RFID reader supporting multiple transmit power levels.